Dear Oliver, 6/1/12 6/27/75

Your slightly encouraging letter of the 18th, postmarked the 21st, came today. I do take slight encouragement from it and hasten to give you some.

Except where you consider it necessary and then with the understanding that they keep it confidential, in confidence I have this to report: there is a possibility that some of the contents of POST MORTEM may be an individual Church committee Report. Also understand that if I face a conflict of interest and this time comes prior to my being able to arrange printing I'll resolve the conflict in favor of my obligations as a citizen. I've made this explicit and in return have assurances of complete confidentiality until the final moment.

I had a meeting on this just yesterday behind all that security and then in even more security, in a separated hideaway. (I regard this as unnecessary but it is the way they feel they have to work and the political situation justifies it.) That staffer is to come here Wednesday and beginning 10 days later with a Senator, with whom I also met yesterday at his request. The Senator, a committee member, is an old friend and one I respect. He is the one American politician who was willing to run some risk back in 1965 and try to help me get published, with personal initiatives with the WxPost, Life, Look and Congressional committees. He had read the ms of my first book first. He is a lawyer, too.

Knowing the political realities I stayed away from him recently in the expectation that when the time came he'd call me. Our time together was short because he had a committee meeting at 10 a.m. but he used part of that time to cue his nominee on the committee in on our personal relationship of the past and on this subject, where he has shared my views from the first but in public silence if actively privately. However, he had also told his nominee what he wanted to get from me by way of recommendations and I'd gone into that earlier. This has two parts: the three major points for the committee and him to consider as they consider the JFK assassination and the proper approach.

I recommended that the committee restrict itself to its major mandate for which it will not have enough time and on this restrict itself to acquiring fact that can enable it to recommend a separate Senate investigation. If they do this or if he does I have guarateed them more than enough authentic evidence, that with which you are familiar, so they will have absolutely no work of their own to do and an absolutely solid case. Post Mortem is this, as if you do now know I do not only from my own previous experience but from lawyers' readings, including one by a friend with a prestigeous firm where his job is readings for major publishers.

Now can one exaggerate the potential of a work that can cause an official inquiry?

Going alone with this are a number of changes and entirely new situations. Of these my newest litigation vs the FBI first. I've caught them in and charged them with perjury. Their response to my allegations of continued withholdings after swearing to none was of all things that I could make such charges ad infinitim and prove them because I know more about this subject than anyone in the FBI(picture it on the jacket!). All of this and more for which there is neither time nor space has forced the retirement at an age less than mine of the expert agent involved and the delivery to me of what is sensational proof of FBI fakery and the failure to do what it was obligated to do in its investigation. + more.

CBS has announced a fall special, 2 hrs. I know from inside another net that both others are following suit. Well, I've copyrighted all the basic work in 2 cases and own it. From inside CBS I know they are going on the assumption that they can rip off my work but I'm confident they can't legally. Meanwhile, on both cases they have been in touch with me. On King they are to be back next week. On JFK soon. I could not see them then the JFK team eanted it. (How surprised they were that I would not change my commitments!)

I'll follow your advice and leave all of this over there up to you, expecting that if and when the time comes you'll be in touch with Gordon Harbord. However, having heard nothing from you and knowing the realities and possibilities over here, I've been in touch with two publications over here, in each case on a proposal for first serial rights in return for a 5,000 print of 648 pp. of the unabridged book for me. With the [illegible] where I had asked that if there is not a deal soon and if my wife approves I'm going to decide that I'll be out with the editorial people in New York until [illegible] a.m. this past Tuesday. In the meantime, where it grew from their request of me for help on something else, with a representaive who was here until 1 a.m. yes terday. Neither will interfere there if either comes to anything now. Meanwhile, I've paid off the debt on Whitewash IV, debt further to [illegible] because I regard its success now as certain.

and had decided that if there is not a deal soon and if my wife approves I'll go into debt further to bring this work out because I regard its success now as certain -

I now have a copy of the work. Playboy had gone for it all the way up to Heffner who, unexpectedly chickened out. The whole vast bureaucracy. So you hang onto the one you have. If I can go further and if you have the time, I'd encourage you to start planning a condensation because I remain convinced that the money is in it and that this whole thing is so Byzantine that no popularization/ condensation can survive without the backstopping of the complete work. For you this would have the advantage of a head start if I can arrange anything over here. If I have to go ahead with and can arrange another of my underground editions I am confident it will generate more interest and there will be interest in the popularization. My only concern with it is faithfulness and I know that vast hunks have to come out in toto. But with the backstopping, much can be stated without worry about the detail in the full work. I believe the shorter the better. Also, I now have and can supply "new material." Important stuff, too. So there can be some sales of both editions. With the interest in the subject, this can be a real factor. Meanwhile, if what you may be able to work out is no more than a one-time newspaper use, that can help a) with financing the full work over here and b) sales of the story elsewhere, which can also help. So, knowing there is no certainty, I feel a little better and I leave it in your hands, with thanks,

Sincerely,